

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 19-22, 24-28 and 30-32 are pending in this application.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. 6,489,435 (Tanaka et al) as per reasons of record.

Claim 23 has been cancelled. Therefore, the rejections of claim 23 are moot. All the other claims have been indicted as being allowable.

If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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